



Your Guide to Isle Royale National Park  
[www.nps.gov/isro](http://www.nps.gov/isro)

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



# The Intimate Archipelago

DEATH VALLEY, DENALI, CRATER Lake, Redwoods. What comes to mind when you hear these names? They are all places of superlatives: lowest, highest, deepest, tallest—and, of course, they are all national parks.

National parks are cherished symbols of our shared identity as Americans and protect many of our most iconic landscapes. Each place has significance. Yellowstone protects the largest concentration of thermal features on the planet. Chaco Culture preserves the largest pre-Columbian city in the country. Zion has the world’s largest freestanding arch and Yosemite, the continent’s tallest waterfall. And then there’s Isle Royale.

Why is Isle Royale significant? Why is it a national park? In 1929, in response to discussion on the potential value of Isle Royale, the National Park Service dispatched its consultant and naturalist, Dr. Frank Oastler, to the archipelago to make close examination of its qualities. In his report, he stated, “There is little doubt the Island is eminently fitted to take its place among the jewels that constitute our National Park System.”

Here, then, is the countdown for Frank Oastler’s top ten—plus one—reasons why Isle Royale should be protected as a national park.

- 11 Exceptional recreational features
- 10 Remarkable moose population
- 9 Abundant bird life
- 8 Abundant plant life
- 7 Remarkable presentations of the evolution of bog invasion
- 6 Fine example of the transitional forest zone
- 5 Excellent demonstration of the evolution of plant societies
- 4 Geologic story of peculiar interest
- 3 Scenic features with an unusual type of beauty
- 2 Real wilderness

And the number one reason why Dr. Frank Oastler believed Isle Royale was worthy of national park status? Its isolation.

More than eighty years later, these factors still define our experiences. We teeter on boardwalks as we negotiate bogs and swamps rich with orchids, pitcher plants, and skunk cabbage. We

hike ridges and valleys traversing billion-year-old lava flows. We wander through forests and boat along rocky shorelines. We immerse ourselves into the landscape.

Isle Royale is a place of intimacy. It captivates not with magnificence, but with detail and richness. There are no “must-see” sights; each person’s experience is profoundly personal. It is a place that draws people in and holds them tight. For more than four thousand years, people have been drawn here, and this story, of human interaction with this landscape, is now one of the park’s fundamental values.

On your next visit to Isle Royale National Park, put yourself in Oastler’s shoes and make your own personal top ten list. How is this place significant to you? What fundamental values does it have? These are important questions because the preservation and protection of national parks depends on our relationship with them. If we lose our intimacy with them, if they cease to be significant or valuable, then they will surely disappear.

Valerie Martin  
Park Ranger

## WELCOME TO ISLE ROYALE

Birthdays and anniversaries are times for celebrations. They are times for remembering the past and embracing the future. In the next few years, the National Park Service will turn one hundred and Isle Royale National Park will celebrate its diamond anniversary. In preparation for these landmark dates, there is a renewed vigor and sense of commitment towards protecting and preserving Isle Royale and all the incredible sites that make up our National Park System.

The recently completed Wilderness and Backcountry Management Plan and the in process Cultural Resources Management Plan aim to preserve and protect the irreplaceable natural, cultural and wilderness resources of Isle Royale. Continued efforts to protect Lake Superior from invasive species via ballast water and a commitment to pursue alternative energy for the park’s facilities are among park management priorities. Efforts made by concerned citizens to help the park achieve these goals have been critical. But park management decisions are not enough to protect a place. All Americans are vested in the future of these sites. With vision and foresight our ancestors began protecting these special places while the country was still young. Now as the world becomes more crowded and moves ever faster, Isle Royale and other national parks become more and more important as places of refuge; as places that have the power to renew and revitalize our bodies and souls.

With each crossing to Isle Royale, I wait and watch for the low shadowy outline of the islands to appear on the horizon. As the ferry approaches, I begin to see details: the rocky wave-washed shoreline, the deep forests and open ridges. On a lucky day, I glimpse a moose with her calf swimming for shore. As I arrive, I am thankful that such a place exists.

As you set out on your own journey to Isle Royale National Park, celebrate all the Island has to offer you. Once home, explore the park’s website as you reflect on your trip and plan for future visits with family and friends. If you would like to be part of our diamond anniversary or get involved with park projects let us know.

Phyllis Green,  
Superintendent



Printing of  
The Greenstone  
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Keweenaw Parks  
Association



### What makes Isle Royale special?

For me it’s the memories, memories of the Island I knew. I first ventured there in 1952. Six of us hiked from Malone Bay to Rock Harbor following moose paths and four inch orange signs that marked the barely distinguishable trail. We asked how many people hiked the ridge and were told twelve to twenty in a year. We saw no one.

So many memories: butterflies feeding on wolf scat, wildflowers

too many to count, thunderstorms better than fireworks on the 4th of July, sunsets you could never paint, and sleeping under a million stars.

The joys of an empty shelter after hiking five miles in the rain with a forty pound pack, the luxuries of dry feet, warm sleeping bag and a clean outhouse, the pride in being self-sufficient. What a feeling!

Merlyn “Red” Dahl  
Isle Royale devotee for sixty years

## 4 Interpretive Activities

Educational Programs and guided tours about the natural and cultural history of the park.

## 5–8 Wilderness Use

Pull-out map with information on Leave No Trace, hiking, camping, fishing, canoeing, kayaking and boating.

## 11 Transport & Fees

Ferry schedules and daily fees.

## 12 Publications

Books and maps provided through the Isle Royale and Keweenaw Parks Association.



# Contacts

**Isle Royale National Park**  
800 E. Lakeshore Drive  
Houghton, MI 49931-1869  
**Phone:** 906-482-0984  
**Fax:** 906-482-8753  
**Website:** [www.nps.gov/isro](http://www.nps.gov/isro)  
**E-mail for General Information:**  
[ISRO\\_ParkInfo@nps.gov](mailto:ISRO_ParkInfo@nps.gov)  
**Emergency use only:**  
800-433-1986

**Isle Royale and Keweenaw  
Parks Association**  
**(Books, Maps, DVDs and Posters)**  
800 East Lakeshore Drive  
Houghton, MI 49931-1869  
**Phone:** 800-678-6925; 906-482-3627  
**Website:**  
[www.irkpa.org](http://www.irkpa.org)  
**E-mail:**  
[irkpa@irkpa.org](mailto:irkpa@irkpa.org)

**Rock Harbor Lodge**  
**Summer**  
P. O. Box 605  
Houghton, MI 49931-0605  
**Phone:** 906-337-4993  
**Winter**  
Rock Harbor Lodge, P. O. Box 27,  
Mammoth Cave, KY 42259-0027  
Toll-Free Reservations: 866-644-2003  
Phone: 270-773-2191  
**Website:**  
[www.RockHarborLodge.com](http://www.RockHarborLodge.com)  
**E-mail:**  
[isleroyaleresort@starband.net](mailto:isleroyaleresort@starband.net)

**Weather Forecasts  
for Isle Royale  
Michigan**  
[www.crh.noaa.gov/mqt](http://www.crh.noaa.gov/mqt)  
**Minnesota**  
[www.crh.noaa.gov/dlh](http://www.crh.noaa.gov/dlh)

**National Weather Service  
Radio Forecasts**

- 162.400 MHz from  
Houghton, Michigan.
- 162.475 MHz from  
Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada.

**Keweenaw Convention and  
Visitors Bureau**  
**Phone:** 800-338-7982  
**Website:**  
[www.keweenaw.info](http://www.keweenaw.info)  
**E-mail:** [info@keweenaw.info](mailto:info@keweenaw.info)

**Minnesota's Grand Marais  
Visitor Information Center**  
**Phone:** 888-922-5000  
**Website:**  
[www.grandmarais.com](http://www.grandmarais.com)

**Michigan Department  
of Natural Resources  
Fishing License Purchase**  
**Website:**  
[www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)

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# Did You Know?

Every national park is designated to protect significant resources. Isle Royale National Park preserves both the cultural and natural stories of life on an isolated archipelago. Test your knowledge of Isle Royale's significant resources...

- 1) Wilderness is one of the defining features of Isle Royale. Ninety-nine percent of the land-base of the park is federally designated Wilderness. Was Isle Royale the first national park to be established mainly for its wilderness character?
- 2) The boundaries of Isle Royale National Park stretch 4.5 miles out from the islands into Lake Superior. Seventy-five percent of Isle Royale National Park's total area is water. An amazing 408,000 acres protect genetically diverse fish stocks and a collection of shipwrecks! Does Isle Royale protect the largest acreage of water in the National Park Service?
- 3) The lava flows that form the ridge and valley topography of Isle Royale are about a billion years old. The Greenstone Ridge that forms the backbone of the main island is known as a popular hiking trail, but if you were a geologist you might guess its real claim to fame.

- ANSWERS
- 1) No. Grand Teton was first, established in 1929... Isle Royale was authorized in 1931, established in 1940.
  - 2) No. Glacier Bay has the most water acreage. Isle Royale ranks about third – it depends how you count. Isle Royale National Park does protect the largest area of freshwater.
  - 3) The Greenstone Ridge is part of the billion year old Greenstone lava flow which is the largest lava flow on the planet.



The National Park Service  
cares for special places saved by  
the American people so that all may  
Experience Our Heritage



# Rock Harbor Lodge and Windigo Store

*NEW FOR 2012 Two rustic cabins near the Windigo Store provide shelter for guests who want to camp without a tent. Please contact the Rock Harbor Lodge for rate and reservation information.*

## Lodge Rooms

Sixty rooms are available; each accommodates four and offers private bath. Opens 6/5, Closes 9/8.

## Housekeeping Rooms

Twenty duplex cottages accommodate six and are furnished with utensils, dishware, private bath, double bed and two bunk beds. Opens 5/25, Closes 9/8.

## Gift Shop and Dockside Store

Gift Shop offers handcrafted gifts, apparel, photo supplies, postcards, souvenirs, daily fishing licenses, and tackle. The store offers groceries, freeze-dried foods, fishing tackle, stove fuel, camping, hiking, and boating accessories, showers, laundry facilities, and sundries. Gift Shop Opens 6/5, Closes 9/8; Dockside Store Opens 5/25, Closes 9/8.

## Lodge Dining Room & Greenstone Grill

Hearty meals, including fresh Lake Trout. Visitors welcome for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Food service Opens 6/5, Closes 9/8.

## Marina and Water Taxi

Offers 450 feet of dock space in Rock Harbor, accommodating boats up to 65 feet. Electrical, fresh water hook-up, sewage pump-out, gasoline, and diesel fuel, motorboat, canoe, and kayak rental available. Water taxi service drops off or picks up visitors, canoes, or kayaks at many island docks. Services Open 5/25, Close 9/8.

## Fishing Charters and Sightseeing

Charters are fully equipped. For details on sightseeing trips refer to page 4. Opens 6/5, Closes 9/8.

## Windigo Store and Marina

Offers groceries, cold sandwiches, camping supplies, stove fuel, daily fishing licenses and tackle, gifts and photo supplies. The marina offers gasoline, pump-out service, and motorboat, canoe and kayak rental. Shower and laundry facilities available. Services Open 6/5, Close 9/10.

The cost for utilities on Isle Royale is much higher than on the mainland. A utility surcharge will be added to the cost of some goods and services.

Contact Information to the left. [www.RockHarborLodge.com](http://www.RockHarborLodge.com)



# SOARing to Protect Underwater Resources

Building submersible remotely operated vehicles (ROVs) for use on Isle Royale may appear to be an impossible challenge to most high school students. But as part of SOAR (Student Organization of Aquatic Robotics), that is exactly what we are doing.

Marine Robotics is a science elective course offered at Dollar Bay High School. As students enrolled in the course, we become members of our High School Enterprise Team, SOAR. Our goal in the SOAR team is to design and build ROVs to assist community organizations in studying, monitoring, and improving our local watershed. As students growing up on Lake Superior, we understand the need to protect and



The SOAR team field tests an ROV

maintain the quality of our great lake. We use science concepts to build a tool, the ROV, to help the community protect our natural resources.

The partnership between Isle Royale National Park and SOAR is a natural fit; 75% of the park area is underwater. Pristine shipwrecks are below the surface of the water. Inland lakes contain giant colonies of freshwater sponges and huge populations of native mussels. An ROV designed and built by SOAR will be a useful tool to survey, explore, research, and monitor these cultural and natural resources.

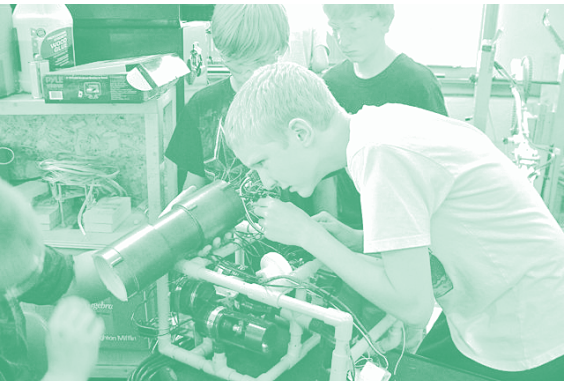
Invasive mussels are a current threat to Isle Royale’s resources. Zebra and quagga mussels could potentially alter inland lake ecosystems by outcompeting native species. Shipwrecks would lose their integrity if covered under multiple layers of invasive mussel shells. Increased maintenance costs for park infrastructure, such as water intakes, could become a drain on financial resources, leaving less funding for other

projects. Finally, if Isle Royale becomes the next victim of zebra mussel infestation, it could serve as a host site for new infestation elsewhere.

SOAR’s ROV becomes part of a three-pronged solution to fight invasive mussels. Since the discovery of zebra mussels on Isle Royale in 2009, park divers have gone below the water’s surface to monitor and control invasive mussels. Our ROV will assist in this same monitoring at major points of entry. A park ranger can deploy the ROV from the dock quickly and safely and view the area more frequently than diving permits.

The second part of the ROV solution includes inspection of recreational and commercial vessels. Because of the portability of the ROV, the inspections could be done from the dock or while the vessel is still out in the lake.

Finally, we hope the ROV will serve as a tool to assist in educating park visitors of the potential threats from invasive species. The ROV will serve



Students work on engineering and design issues

as an ice-breaker in conversation with park rangers and visitors. People can learn, as we have as SOAR team members, about the resources unique to the park that are worth protecting.

SOAR looks to partner with additional organizations to improve our watershed. We are thankful for support from the Square One Education Network as well as the Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative.

**Samantha Richards and Tom Dunstan**

**Dollar Bay High School SOAR team members**

## Preserving the Past

As the *Voyageur II* approaches Windigo, you welcome the warm air that the harbor offers from an otherwise cool voyage. From the bow you can see a bald eagle soaring overhead as you feel the boat begin to turn towards two small islands. Your map identifies them as Washington and Barnum. Small structures dot the shoreline of what looks like a quaint and quiet harbor. All of a sudden the peace is ripped by the buzz of a chainsaw followed by a steady hammering. Your bewildered ears lead your eyes to a small group of men doing a variety of carpentry work on an old building that appears to be on stilts. The Captain tells you that the men are working on what is known as The Johns Hotel.

John F. Johns first set foot on Isle Royale in 1861. An English immigrant

and miner, he was most likely hired to explore the east end for copper. It is unclear as to what he found on that first visit, but he did find one thing: a place to call home for the next 40 years.

A jack-of-all-trades, Johns found work as a miner, commercial fisherman, and resort operator on the island. Along with his family, he settled on what is known today as Barnum Island in 1883. It was at this site that he established a hotel in response to the island’s growing tourism industry in 1892.

The Johns Hotel offered the island’s first accommodations for visitors. It was a rustic establishment comprised of many different buildings built from tamarack logs hauled by dogs from nearby Johns Island. These included the hotel, sleeping cottages, a barn, a store, and a post office. As a guest

you would have been treated to meals prepared by John’s wife Catherine and a relaxing environment to seek relief from hay fever.

The Hotel, though successful, was short-lived and closed in 1902 so John and Catherine Johns could retire. Despite its closure, successive generations of the family continued to use the structures for work purposes or leisure during the summer months. After years of hard work The Johns Hotel (which by this time included only the hotel building) was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1997.

With this designation the Johns family began preservation work on the hotel, which has continued with a team of specialists from the National Park Service Historic Preservation Training Center during the summers of 2011 and 2012. It is the goal that this building can be restored to its former structural integrity, ensuring an important part of Isle Royale’s past will be protected, preserved, and enjoyed by future generations of visitors.

**Katie Keller  
Park Volunteer**



Measuring logs to scribe for a perfect fit

As we left Washington Harbor and the Johns Hotel last summer we felt a tremendous sense of accomplishment. It was as though our forefathers were waving a sign of approval as we passed by on the ferry. The Johns Hotel, after years of deterioration, looked fresh and sturdy. The Johns Family and the Historic Preservation Team had just spent three weeks jacking and replacing logs on the Johns Hotel. We look forward to another successful summer in 2012, hopefully completing the log replacement phase.

**The Johns Family**



The Johns Hotel in 2011

# Interpretive Activities

Enjoyable and educational programs are offered on Isle Royale at Rock Harbor and Windigo, and they are also presented on the National Park Service vessel, *Ranger III*. In addition, the tour boat *MV Sandy* offers guided excursions.

Ranger guided programs are free, although those involving *MV Sandy* and the *Ranger III* waterway cruises include a transportation fee. Check at local bulletin boards for further details.

For outdoor activities, dress for the possibility of cold or rain and wear sturdy footwear. Trails are rocky and can be slippery during or after wet weather; wear shoes with good ankle support, weatherproofing, and soles that grip well. Come join us!

- All times are Eastern Daylight Time
- \$ = transportation cost
- \*\* = indicates tours with a park ranger

ROCK HARBOR AREA	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Rock Harbor Visitor Center</b> Information, books, maps, educational sales materials, camping permits, dive permits, user fee payments, and Jr. Ranger Program.			Daily 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. – July and August Reduced schedule possible in May, June and September				
<b>Interpretive Programs</b> Join a park representative for an exploration of Isle Royale’s natural and cultural history.			Check the bulletin board for program schedule.				
MV SANDY TOURS FROM ROCK HARBOR	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
The trails on guided tours are rocky and uneven with some steep climbs and descents; trails may be slippery. Be prepared for cold temperatures and the possibility of rain.	For all tours and programs involving the <i>MV Sandy</i> , obtain tickets and information at the Lodge Registration Office. <i>MV Sandy</i> Tours will operate from June 5 through September 7. Rates for the various tours are available at the Rock Harbor Lodge and Rock Harbor Visitor Center; children under 12 are charged half-price for the <i>MV Sandy</i> . <i>Water Bus</i> service for hikers/paddlers available with some tours. Contact Rock Harbor Lodge for details.						
<b>Hidden Lake/Lookout Louise (\$)**</b> <b>Greenstone Shuttle</b> A 4-mile boat trip on the <i>MV Sandy</i> to Hidden Lake Trailhead followed by a guided 2-mile round trip hike past Hidden Lake up 320 feet to Lookout Louise. View the south shore of Canada and the north shore of Isle Royale. Return with the group or bring a lunch and water and hike 9.4 miles back to Rock Harbor.			9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (Water Bus)		9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (Water Bus)		
<b>Passage Island (\$)**</b> An 8-mile boat tour on the <i>MV Sandy</i> crosses one of Isle Royale’s popular shipping lanes. The 2-mile guided round-trip hike leads to Passage Island Lighthouse and explores an area of low moose presence.		1:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.				1:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	
<b>Edisen Fishery and Rock Harbor Light (\$)</b> Visit the historic commercial fishery with the resident fishery demonstrator and take a quarter-mile walk to the oldest lighthouse (1855) on Isle Royale and enjoy its maritime exhibits.					2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.		9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (Water Bus)
<b>Captain’s Cruise (\$)</b> Explore with the Captain of the <i>MV Sandy</i> , scenic, out-of-the-way destinations, such as Middle Island Passage, Lorelei Lane, Rock Harbor Lighthouse, Davidson Island, and Starvation Point.			2:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.				
<b>Raspberry Island/Sunset Cruise (\$)</b> Take a walk along a boardwalk through the spruce bog on Raspberry Island followed by a cruise on the <i>MV Sandy</i> around Scoville and Blake Points to view features like the Canada shoreline, the site of the <i>Monarch</i> shipwreck, and a Lake Superior sunset (after Aug. 15, cruise only).			8:00 p.m. to Sunset in June-July  7:30 p.m. to Sunset in August-September			8:00 p.m. to Sunset in June-July  7:30 p.m. to Sunset in August-September	
DAISY FARM	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Interpretive Programs</b> Join a park representative for an exploration of Isle Royale’s natural and cultural history.			Check the campground bulletin board for program schedule.				
WINDIGO	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Windigo Visitor Center</b> Information, books, maps, educational sales materials, camping permits, dive permits, user fee payments, and Jr. Ranger Program.			Daily 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. – July and August Reduced schedule possible May, June, and September				
<b>Interpretive Programs</b> Join a park representative for an exploration of Isle Royale’s natural and cultural history.			Check the bulletin board for program schedule.				
HOUGHTON	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Houghton</b> Information, trip planning, books, maps, and other educational sales materials, <i>Ranger III</i> and group camping reservations, boater camping permits, dive permits, and user fee payments.		5/29 through 6/2 open 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, Saturday 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. 6/4 through 8/18 open 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. 8/20 through 9/15 open 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, Saturday 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. 9/17 through 5/24 open 8:15 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Monday through Friday, closed for fall and winter holidays					
RANGER III	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Interpretive and Educational Programs</b> While onboard, park staff and guest speakers, weather permitting, will explore Isle Royale’s natural and cultural history or topics related to the Lake Superior Basin. Park staff will assist in trip planning, answering questions, and issuing backcountry camping permits.			9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. 5/29 thru 9/11	9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. 5/30 through 9/12		9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. 6/1 thru 9/14	9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. 6/2 through 9/15
<b>Keweenaw Cruises (\$)</b> Enjoy an afternoon cruise along the scenic Keweenaw Waterway aboard the <i>Ranger III</i> . For reservations call (906) 482-0984					1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. 7/12, 7/26, 8/9 and 8/23		



# Wilderness Use

***During Isle Royale’s early history, visitors risked much to get there. They did not come to vacation; they came to tame the wilderness through mining its copper, harvesting its fish, and logging its timber. The island was never tamed, the resource never conquered, but its landscape holds the scars of these early attempts.***

***Today Isle Royale has reverted back to a primitive wilderness. The environmental conditions historically viewed as a burden are now attracting a new clientele. Today’s visitors, as in the past, can still adversely affect this sensitive resource. To minimize your impact on park resources and other visitors, please practice “Leave No Trace” (for additional information request a copy of the park’s Leave No Trace booklet or visit [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org)). Where you place your feet is as important as how you treat and dispose of waste. Be part of the solution: help maintain the sense of solitude and preserve the wilderness flavor, a flavor that has the potential to change your life. Proper wilderness use begins with reading, supporting, and putting into practice the following information.***

## Camping

Permits are required for all overnight stays at campgrounds, cross-country sites, docks, or at anchor, regardless of group size or method of travel.

### Party Size Defined

The party size for camping at Isle Royale is divided into two categories. “Small” (Individual) parties are defined as a group of six or fewer people. “Group” parties are defined as seven to ten people. There are different requirements outlined below based on party size.

### Small Party Camping Permits — parties of six or fewer

Camping for individual parties is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Individual parties can obtain permits onboard the *Ranger III* or upon arrival at Rock Harbor or Windigo Visitor Centers. For trip planning assistance, call (906) 482-0984; write to Isle Royale National Park, 800 East Lakeshore Drive, Houghton, Michigan 49931, or E-mail [ISRO\\_ParkInfo@nps.gov](mailto:ISRO_ParkInfo@nps.gov).

### Group Camping Permits — parties of seven to ten

Advance reservations are required for group camping. For reservations and trip planning assistance call (906) 482-0984; write to Group Reservations, Isle Royale National Park, 800 East Lakeshore Drive, Houghton, Michigan 49931, or E-mail [ISRO\\_GroupReserve@nps.gov](mailto:ISRO_GroupReserve@nps.gov) or make reservations on-line at [www.nps.gov/isro](http://www.nps.gov/isro). If your party exceeds ten people, you must split into two groups, each independent and traveling on completely separate itineraries. Groups shall camp in group tent site locations only (see chart on page six). Group leaders shall carry medical information for each group member including known allergies, known medical conditions, and medications currently taken. Organizations may not have more than twenty people camping on the island at any one time and are limited to eighty people per year. For additional information refer to group camping information at [www.nps.gov/isro](http://www.nps.gov/isro)

### Where to Camp

All campsites on Isle Royale offer tent sites and/or three-sided shelters. Shelter and tent sites are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Shelters may not be reserved and may not be used solely for cooking or storage of gear. Tents may not be erected at shelter sites. Be gentle with screen doors on shelters to minimize intrusive noise and to prevent damage.

Expect crowded conditions at park campsites during mid-July through August. When sites are full, we ask campers to double up and share empty tent pad space.

Campers must stay in established campsites unless off-trail (cross-country) arrangements are made at the time the permit is obtained. Off-trail hiking and camping is difficult at Isle Royale, and is only recommended for experienced campers.

### Commercial Groups

Organizations that charge trip participants a fee or that compensate members or trip leaders in any way are commercial groups under federal law. These groups must apply for commercial use authorization to conduct trips in the park. There is a \$200 fee for this. Applications are only accepted between January 2 and May 15; for further information visit [www.nps.gov/isro/parkmgmt/businesswithpark.htm](http://www.nps.gov/isro/parkmgmt/businesswithpark.htm)

## “Quiet, Please”

Most visitors come to Isle Royale to hear the sounds of nature in a wild setting. Excessive human noise disturbs wildlife and other visitors. Sound travels easily over the water and on the trail. During quiet hours, between 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. EDT, if people in adjacent campsites can hear your activities, you are being too loud.

## Respect Wildlife

Observe, photograph, and enjoy park wildlife from a safe distance. Use binoculars or a zoom lens “to get closer” to wildlife. Loons are especially susceptible to disturbance, and may abandon their nests when approached too closely by boats. Cow moose with calves, particularly in the spring, and bull moose during the fall rut can be dangerous; give them a wide berth.

Keep wild animals wild by discouraging them from approaching humans. Practice proper food storage and keep a clean camp. To protect your food make sure it is sealed and secured. It is illegal to feed, touch, tease, or intentionally disturb wildlife, their homes, nests, or activities. Animals, particularly fox and otter, when habituated to human food, may eventually overcome their natural wariness of humans and may have to be destroyed.

## Human Waste

Proper disposal of human waste helps prevent pollution of water sources, minimizes aesthetic impacts to other visitors and reduces the spread of illness. Never defecate within 200 feet (at least 75 steps) of lakes, streams, trails, gullies, or campsites. In areas without outhouses, select a site that visitors are unlikely to discover. With a small trowel, dig a “cathole” 6 to 8 inches deep and 4 to 6 inches in diameter. Use toilet paper sparingly. After use, cover the “cathole” with the excavated soil and disguise it with natural materials. Urinate on durable surfaces away from campsites and water sources. Pack out all used feminine-hygiene products, carrying them in plastic bags, doubled to confine odor.

## Showers

The concession operation offers token-operated shower facilities at Rock Harbor (Open 5/25, Close 9/7) and Windigo (Open 6/5, Close 9/9).

## Waste Water Disposal

### Cleaning Cookware

Most cookware can be cleaned with hot water, a little elbow grease, and sand or other natural scrubbers. Clean cookware at least 200 feet (75 steps) from lakes, streams, trails, gullies, or campsites. Soap is unnecessary for most dishwashing jobs. Even biodegradable soaps take a long time to degrade. Use these products sparingly and keep them at least 200 feet (75 steps) from water sources and campsites.

Use a small strainer or screen to remove food bits from the water and pack them out with your garbage. The remaining gray water should be scattered or broadcast over a wide area away from camps and water sources.

### Bathing/Cleaning Clothes

When bathing use soap only if necessary and use it sparingly. Get wet, then move at least 200 feet (75 steps) away from all water sources and campsites to lather and rinse. Rinse water can be carried in collapsible containers or pots. Clothes can be cleaned by taking them away from water sources and campsites and thoroughly rinsing them with plain water.

## Drinking Water

Potable water is only available in Rock Harbor and Windigo. All surface lake and stream water should be considered contaminated with natural parasites. Drinking contaminated water can make you very sick. Water collected in the park should be boiled for at least one minute or passed through a 0.4 micron filter. To be assured of no risk of contamination from small bacteria and viruses, all filtered water should be further treated with iodine or other approved chemical methods. By itself, chemical treatment is not an effective method of water purification. If you boil your water, bring plenty of stove fuel. If filtering, bring a replacement cartridge for filters that cannot be cleaned in the field. Please note: SteriPENs have not been manufacturer-tested for a common Isle Royale parasite and cannot be considered effective.

Precautions should be taken to prevent filters from becoming clogged. Filter water from a pot rather than directly from a lake or creek. Allow the sediment in the pot to settle and filter only from the cleaner water on top.

Dehydration is a factor in most medical problems experienced in the park. In hot weather the Greenstone, Minong, and other trails become hot and dry, and creeks that once offered water may be dry. In addition, there is little or no dependable water available along many trails. To avoid dehydration, be sure to carry a minimum of 2 quarts of water per person. Drink as much water as possible while near water sources. Start hiking early before the day heats up – on ridges it starts getting hot at 10:00 a.m. on sunny days and gets hotter through late afternoon. Hike at a slower pace than usual and rest in shady spots. Dehydration is also a problem in cold weather as most people don’t feel thirsty and tend to drink less. Watch for mild signs of dehydration such as thirst, fatigue, headache and dizziness. Signs of severe dehydration include nausea, reduced or no sweating, long stretches without urinating.

### Drinking Water Notice

*In the past few years, blue-green algae blooms have occurred in several inland lakes including Chickenbone Lake and Lake Ritchie. Blue-green algae blooms can be toxic, but due to the large variety of blue-green algae species and individual conditions of each bloom, we cannot predict if a particular bloom is toxic or not. Filtering does not remove blue-green algae toxins from the water. Exposure to a toxic bloom can cause a range of symptoms from skin irritation to more serious gastrointestinal or respiratory problems. To be safe, the park recommends that you avoid swimming or filtering water if it appears to have a cloudy blue-green cast or looks like “pea soup” or green paint. If you see an algae bloom while in the backcountry, please report it to a park ranger. If algae blooms occur, current information about conditions will be available at park visitor centers. For more information visit the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency website, <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/clmp-toxicalgae.html>.*

## Hantavirus

There have been no reported cases of Hantavirus at Isle Royale National Park. The deer mouse is the primary carrier of the virus. An infected mouse carries the virus in its urine, saliva, feces, and in the carcass. The primary way humans become infected is through breathing in the virus. Infection can also occur by touching the mouth or nose after handling contaminated materials.

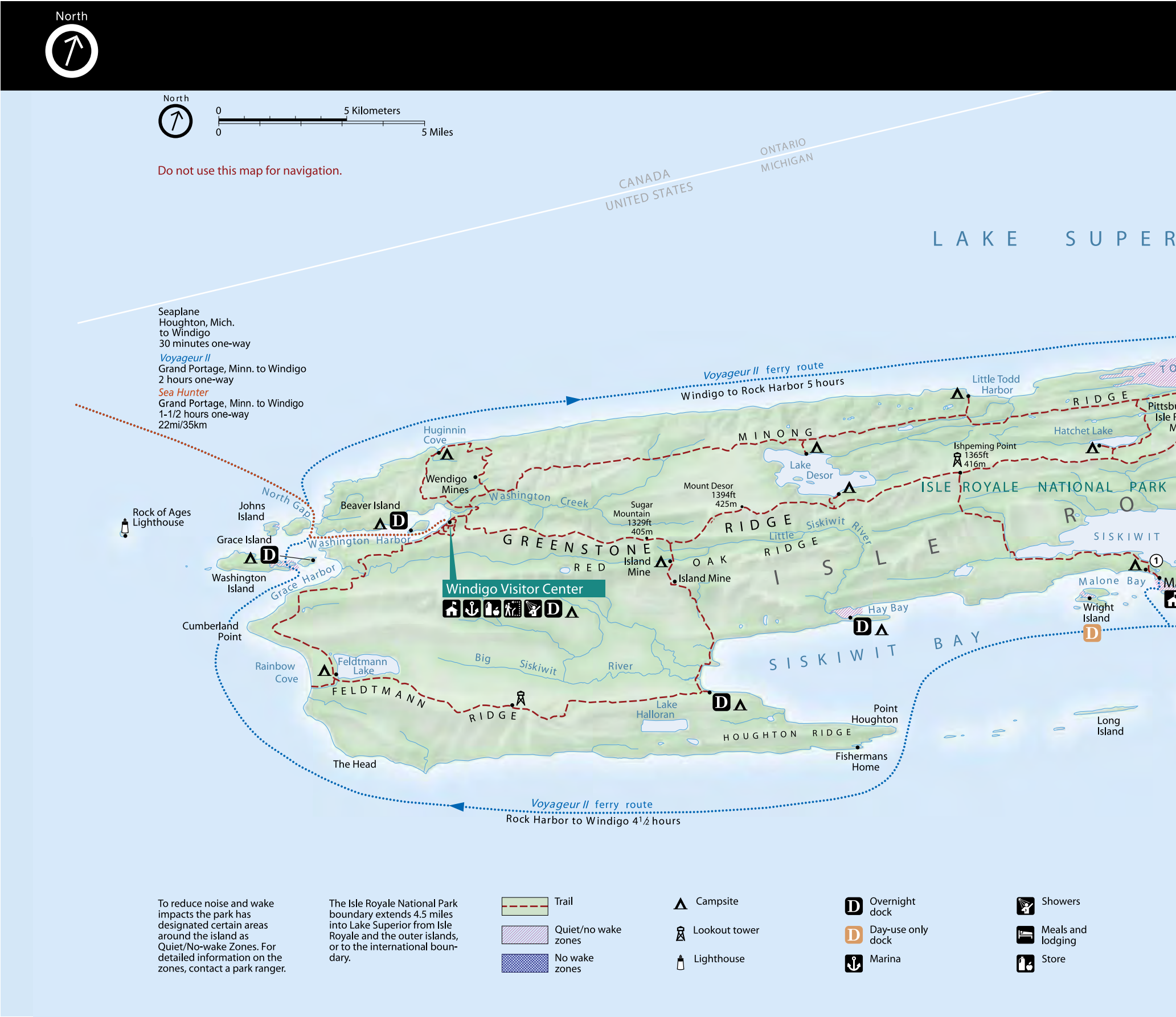
To minimize risk, avoid coming into contact with rodent droppings and burrows, avoid sleeping on bare ground, and store food and garbage in rodent-proof containers. For additional information on Hantavirus contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at 800-532-9929.

## Pack It In, Pack It Out

It starts at home. Through careful meal planning and repackaging of food items, you can reduce food leftovers and trash in the backcountry. Please pack out everything you take in. Leftover food, food-scrap, orange peels, nutshells, apple cores, twist-ties, candy wrappers, fishing line, and cigarette butts must be packed out. If you have food leftovers, either save and eat them later or pack them out. Do not burn, bury or place trash, food scraps or garbage in outhouses. Please help keep the backcountry clean by packing out what you packed in.

## Leave What You Find

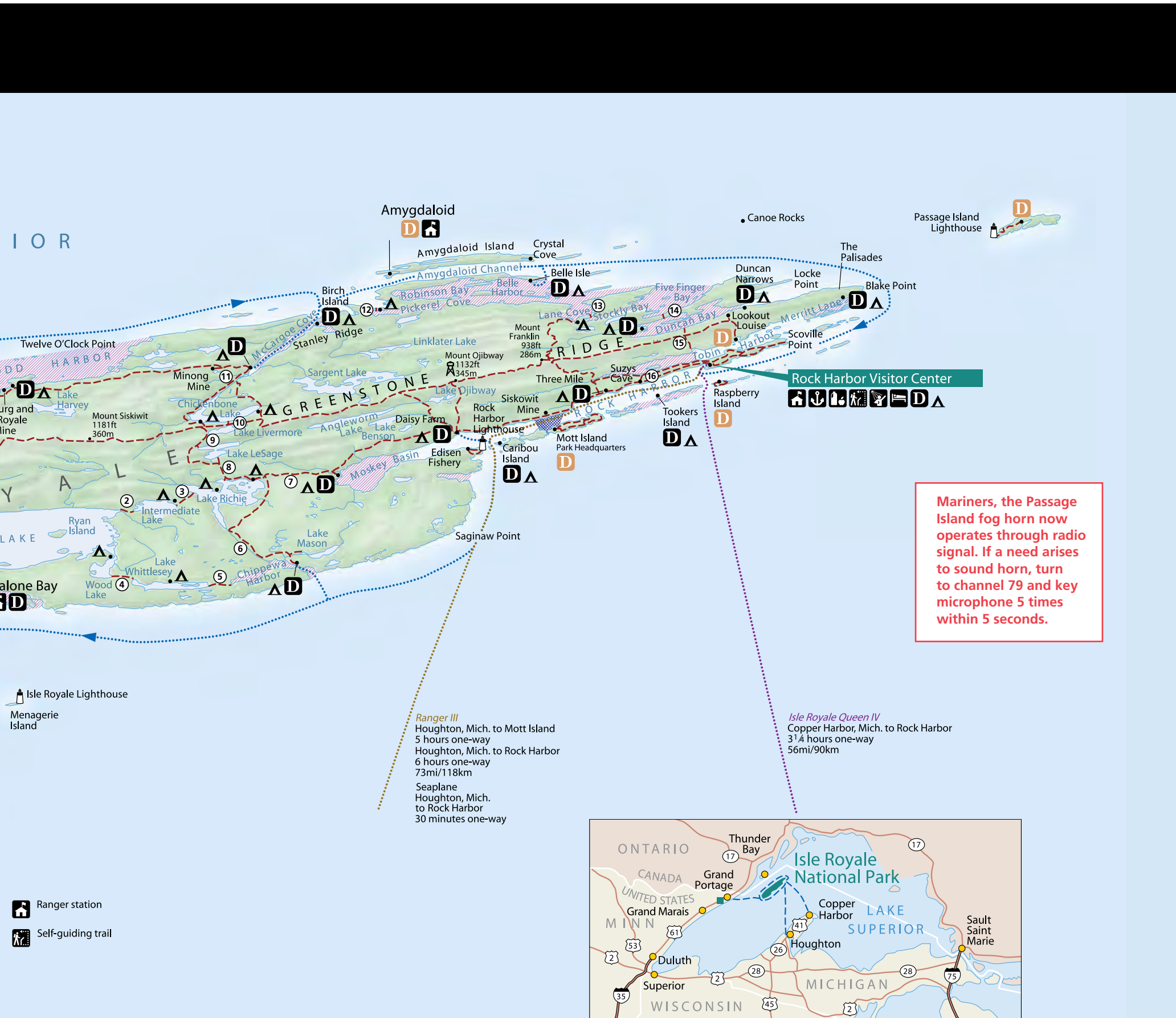
Enjoy your discoveries and take them home via photographs, drawings, and memories. Natural objects of beauty or interest such as moose antlers, plants, driftwood, cultural or archeological resources, greenstones, agates, datolite and other minerals, including those found in Lake Superior, must be left where they are so others can experience the same sense of discovery. Removing, possessing, or disturbing park resources is prohibited. This may seem like a harmless act, but the cumulative effect of many people doing the same can be quite damaging to park resources. Picking small quantities of berries for personal consumption is permitted.



CAMPGROUNDS								
WARNING: Depth at dock. Know your boat's draft.								
KEY: CR - Fires in community ring only S - Self-contained stoves only W - Treated water supply F - Campfires allowed or standing grills provided								
	Consecutive Night's Stay Limit Effective 6/1 - Labor Day	Individual Tent Sites	Shelters	Group Tent Sites	Special Information	Normal Conditions Depth at Dock** in Feet**	On-board Generator Use Permitted*	
■ Beaver Island	3	0	3	0	S	2'-5'	yes	
■ Belle Isle	5	1	6	0	F	13'	yes	
■ Birch Island	3	1	1	0	S	5'	no	
■ Caribou Island	3	1	2	0	CR	10'	yes	
■ Chickenbone E.	2	3	0	1	S	-	-	
■ Chickenbone W.	2	6	0	3	S	-	-	
■ Chippewa Harbor	3	2	4	1	F	7'	no	
■ Daisy Farm	3	6	16	3	S	9'	no	
■ Desor N.	2	3	0	0	S	-	-	
■ Desor S.	2	7	0	3	S	-	-	
■ Duncan Bay	3	1	2	0	F	6'	no	
■ Duncan Narrows	3	1	2	0	F	6'	no	
■ Feldtmann Lake	2	5	0	2	S	-	-	
■ Grace Island	3	0	2	0	S	2'-4'	yes	
■ Hatchet Lake	2	5	0	3	S	-	-	
■ Hay Bay	3	1	0	0	S	3'-7'	yes	
■ Huginnin Cove	3	5	0	0	S	-	-	
■ Intermediate Lake	2	3	0	0	S	-	-	
■ Island Mine	3	4	0	2	F	-	-	
■ Lake Richie	2	4	0	2	S	-	-	
■ Lake Richie/Canoe	2	3	0	0	S	-	-	
■ Lake Whittlesey	2	3	0	0	S	-	-	
■ Lane Cove	3	5	0	0	S	-	-	
■ Little Todd	2	4	0	0	F	-	-	
■ Malone Bay	3	0	5	2	F	3'-6'	yes	
■ McCargoe Cove	3	3	6	3	CR	7'	no	
■ Merritt Lane	3	1	1	0	S	8'	no	
■ Moskey Basin	3	2	6	2	S	8'	no	
■ Pickerel Cove	2	1	0	0	S	-	-	
■ Rock Harbor	1	11	9	3	W-S	-	-	
■ Rock Harbor Marina	Unlimited	-	-	-	F	3'-12'	yes	
■ Siskiwit Bay	3	4	2	3	CR	2'-6'	no	
■ Three Mile	1	4	8	3	S	9'	no	
■ Todd Harbor	3	5	1	3	CR	2'	no	
■ Tookers Island	3	0	2	0	S	7'	no	
■ Washington Creek	3	5	10	4	S-W	-	-	
■ Windigo Dock	5	-	-	-	S	4'-20'	yes	
■ Wood Lake	2	3	0	0	S	-	-	

\* See Isle Royale Boating Guide for details  
\*\* Due to recent low water levels in Lake Superior, boaters should check at Visitor Centers or on the website [www.nps.gov/isro](http://www.nps.gov/isro) for updated water depth information.

CANOE PORTAGES			
Distance	Elevation-Change	General Comment	
① Malone Bay - Siskiwit Lake	- .3 miles, 40' Gradual Slope		
② Siskiwit Lake - Intermediate Lake	- .4 miles, 40' Gradual		
③ Intermediate Lake - Lake Richie	- .6 miles, 120' Hilly and wooded		
④ Wood Lake - Lake Whittlesey	- .6 miles, 80' Rolling		
⑤ Lake Whittlesey - Chippewa Harbor	- .6 miles, 140' Steep grades and rocky		
⑥ Chippewa Harbor - Lake Richie	- 1.2 miles, 160' Hilly		
⑦ Moskey Basin - Lake Richie	- 2.0 miles, 120' Gradual but very long		
⑧ Lake Richie - Lake LeSage	- .6 miles, 100' Steep grades, wet		
⑨ Lake LeSage - Lake Livermore	- .4 miles, 80' Steep grades, wet		
⑩ Lake Livermore - Chickenbone Lake	- .2 miles, 40' Steep but short		
⑪ Chickenbone Lake - McCargoe Cove	- 1.2 miles, 80' Hilly <i>lengthened in 2010</i>		
⑫ Pickerel Cove	- .1 miles, 10' Short and sweet		
⑬ Lane Cove - Stockly Bay	- .1 mile, 8' Short and sweet		
⑭ Five Finger Bay - Duncan Bay	- .2 miles, 8' Short and sweet		
⑮ Duncan Bay - Tobin Harbor	- .8 miles, 175' Extremely steep		
⑯ Tobin Harbor - Rock Harbor	- .2 miles, 40' Up and over		
NOTE: Because of Isle Royale's geology, north-facing slopes are much steeper than south-facing slopes.			



Mariners, the Passage Island fog horn now operates through radio signal. If a need arises to sound horn, turn to channel 79 and key microphone 5 times within 5 seconds.

## SAFETY TIPS

The island’s Wilderness and Lake Superior present challenges and potential hazards to the inexperienced or ill-prepared.

- Basic emergency services are available on the island, but contacting rangers for assistance can be difficult. Emergency response and evacuation may take time, requiring you to rely on your own skills and equipment. Most private boaters on Lake Superior have radios and can contact park rangers in an emergency.
- Bring a good first aid kit, a sufficient supply of any needed medications, and clothing appropriate for the time of year.
- Filter with chemical treatment or boil all surface water. Drink plenty of water. When dehydrated, you tire more quickly, don’t think clearly, and are more prone to fall.
- Weather and lake conditions can deteriorate quickly and unexpectedly. Hypothermia can occur any time of the year, especially near Lake Superior, where water and air temperatures are cool to cold year-round. Fog and waves can quickly create dangerous conditions for boaters, especially for paddlers.
- Many people underestimate hiking travel times and overestimate their abilities. Plan shorter, realistic travel days; don’t turn your wilderness trek into a forced march.

## FISHING REGULATIONS

Species	Seasons	Minimum Size	Daily Possession Limit	Comment
Lake Trout, Rainbow Trout and Salmon Lake Superior and Siskiwit Lake	April 16 to October 31	10” except 15” for lake trout	5 in any combination, but no more than 3 of any one species - only one over 34”	*1, *2 Artificial lures only on Siskiwit Lake*3 *4
Coaster Brook Trout Lake Superior	May 1 to Labor Day	N/A	Catch and release only in park’s Lake Superior waters.	*1 See Greenstone article page 10 for details *4
Brook Trout Streams and Hidden Lake	Last Saturday in April to Labor Day	N/A	Catch and release only — No possession allowed	Artificial lures *3 and barbless hooks *4 See Greenstone article page 10 for details
Rainbow Trout Streams		7”	5 fish with no more than 3 fish over 15”	
Lake Herring (Cisco) and Lake Whitefish Inland Lakes	April 16 to October 31	No minimum size	Catch and release only	*3 *4
Yellow Perch Lake Superior and Inland Lakes	April 16 to October 31	No minimum size	50	Recommend daily limit of 10 *4
Northern Pike Lake Superior and Inland Lakes	May 15 to October 31	24” Lake Superior Inland Lakes - No minimum size, 30” maximum	5 in any combination, but no more than 2 Northern Pike	Artificial lures only on interior lakes *3 and streams *4 See Greenstone article page 10 for details
Walleye Lake Superior and Inland Lakes		15”		

For additional fish species, seasons, and creel limits, please review the Michigan Fishing Guide

- \*1 Park boundaries extend 4.5 miles out into Lake Superior from the outermost land areas of the park.
- \*2 For additional trout/salmon fishing information, review the Michigan Fishing Guide.
- \*3 Artificial lure means any lure or fly manufactured in imitation of, or as a substitute for natural bait. It is unlawful to use or possess live bait, dead or preserved bait, organic or processed food, or scented material on interior lakes or streams.
- \*4 Only barbless hooks may be used for fishing the park’s rivers, creeks, and streams, and all inland lakes. Barbed hooks are only allowed in Lake Superior waters.

# Wilderness Use

## Insects

Expect mosquitoes, black flies, gnats, and other insects to peak in June or July. During wet summers, mosquito populations can continue well into August. Bring insect repellent, netting, or other skin barriers. Dry summers will produce an abundance of yellow jackets. Bring an epinephrine kit if you or a member of your party is allergic to bee stings. For others, over-the-counter antihistamines may help counter minor swelling and itching.

## Minimize Use of Fires

Campfires are permitted at only a handful of campgrounds. A backpacking stove is a must; these stoves are lightweight, dependable, easier to use, and less damaging to the park than wood fires. Where campfires are allowed, a metal fire ring is provided; never build your own ring. Gather only dead and down wood away from the camp area. **Do not import firewood; insects and pathogens from an infected wood source could devastate Isle Royale's forests.** Use small diameter wood no larger than an adult's wrist, as this will burn completely and will eliminate the need to pack a hatchet or saw. Collect wood from a wide area and away from the immediate vicinity of camp. This keeps the camp area from becoming depleted of wood and potential nutrients. Do not break branches or strip bark from standing trees, live or dead. Resist the temptation to gather driftwood or wood from beaver dams or lodges. Do not burn trash in any form. The fire should be kept small. Once finished, make sure the flames and coals are dead out and cold to the touch; double check before going to bed or leaving camp.

## Canoeing/Kayaking

Lake Superior is well known for its cold temperatures, fog, and sudden squalls that can generate waves that could easily swamp a canoe. This along with scarce outer shore landing sites adds to the potential danger. Small, open vessels are encouraged to use the numerous miles of waterways that the inland lakes provide. Canoeists and kayakers should be familiar with weather patterns and consult the marine forecast at visitor centers before embarking. Be prepared to adjust your schedule to the weather. A portable marine radio is recommended.

### Portages –

Canoe routes and portages are on the northeast half of the Island. Portages are marked with a letter “P” on a post.

### PFD –

Every canoeist and kayaker must have a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device. Wear it; your life may depend on it.

### Boat Rental –

Canoe, kayak, and motorboat rentals are available at Windigo and Rock Harbor. For more information contact the Rock Harbor Lodge. (refer to page 2).

## Loons

Isle Royale National Park is the summer home for over 100 nesting pairs of common loons, supporting the only known population which still breeds on Great Lakes waters. These birds nest on land very close to the shoreline, making them highly susceptible to human disturbance. An adult loon who tremolos (the laughing call) is sending a message that you are too close. From mid-May through July 15 (loon nesting season) visitors are to stay at least 150 feet away from small islands. Additional areas may be closed due to loon nesting, please check at the visitor centers for updated information.

## Aquatic Invasive Species

Invasive species are considered to be one of the top threats to the ecological integrity of our national parks. Please take time before and during your trip to do your part to repel the invasion.

### What can you do to stop the spread? Before traveling to Isle Royale

#### Boaters

Drain live wells and bilge on land - remove transom water, lake water, and unwanted bait from your boat. Wash your boat, including bilge and equipment with either: a) Hot (greater than 104 degrees F) water, b) High pressure water, or c) disinfectant OR Clean and Dry your boat and equipment in the sun for five days. Rainy days don't count.

#### Backpackers

Prior to departure, clean your camping gear, clothing, and boots.

#### Canoeists and Kayakers

Remove weeds, algae, and other plant and animal materials from your boat. Wash your boat and equipment with either: a) Hot (greater than 104 degrees F) water, b) High pressure water, or c) disinfectant OR

Clean and Dry your boat and equipment in the sun for five days. Rainy days don't count.

#### Anglers

Clean fishing gear before island departure.

#### Divers

Wash all dive gear in warm chlorinated tap water - Disinfect your wetsuit with a special-purpose shampoo - dry all dive gear and wetsuit for seven days before island departure.

### While on Isle Royale

If you filter water from Lake Superior, change your filter or backflush several times with filtered water before using inland.

#### Canoeists and Kayakers

Wipe down your boat and associated gear before moving from Lake Superior to inland waters.

#### Anglers

When moving from Lake Superior to inland waters, clean gear and change line spools.

## Wheeled Vehicles/ Devices

Wheeled vehicles (except for non-motorized wheelchairs) or other mechanical forms of transportation are not allowed on trails. This includes bicycles and portaging devices.

## Weapons, Traps, & Nets

The use or possession of weapons, traps, and nets is prohibited. Weapons include any implements designed to discharge a projectile or missile in the air or water. Fireworks are prohibited.

**Exception:** As of February 22, 2010, a federal law allows people who can legally possess

firearms under applicable federal, state and local laws to legally possess firearms in the park. However, the discharge of firearms within park boundaries is illegal.

**Park User Responsibility:** It is the responsibility of visitors to understand and comply with all applicable state, local and federal firearms laws before entering the park. As a starting point view the Michigan MCL Section 28.425b and visit the Michigan State Police website.

**Weapons prohibited in Federal Facilities:** Federal law prohibits firearms in certain facilities in the park; those places are marked with signs at all public entrances.

**Weapons restrictions aboard Federal vessels and Concession vessels:** Federal law prohibits firearms aboard federally-owned vessels servicing the park and restricts firearms aboard concession vessels and seaplane servicing the park; those vessels and boarding areas are marked with signs.

For more detailed information and links to legislation and pertaining laws visit [www.nps.gov/isro/parkmgmt/lawsandpolicies.htm](http://www.nps.gov/isro/parkmgmt/lawsandpolicies.htm)

## Pets

Dogs, cats, and other pets are not allowed. This includes pets on boats within the park boundaries, which extend 4.5 miles into Lake Superior from the outermost land areas of the park. Visitors bringing pets to Isle Royale will be required to leave immediately. Pets disturb wildlife and can transmit diseases, particularly to wolves. Special conditions apply to guide dogs. Please contact the park for further information.

## Boating

All boaters staying overnight at anchor, at docks, or in campgrounds must first obtain a camping permit. Lake Superior offers challenging and often dangerous weather in the form of dense fog, high winds, waves, and thunderstorms. Combine this with rocky reefs, limited safe harbors, and Isle Royale's remoteness, and it pays for you, your crew, and your boat to be shipshape. For additional information on boating and trip planning please request the park's Isle Royale Boating Guide. **In addition to Houghton, Rock Harbor, and Windigo, boaters may obtain Isle Royale camping permits and pay user fees while using our on-line service at <https://www.nps.gov/isro>**

### Restricted Water Activities –

Water skiing and personal watercraft including vessels commonly referred to as jet skis, waverunners, sea-dos, wet bikes, or surf jets are prohibited. Since all of the park's inland lakes are located within designated Wilderness, they can only be explored by paddling. Vessels with motors (even if not in use) are prohibited on inland lakes and streams.

### Portable Generators, Electronic and Motorized Devices –

Operation of electronic and motorized devices such as stereos, televisions, radios tuned to commercial stations and portable generators is not permitted except in developed and open-water motorized zones. Developed areas include the Windigo and Rock Harbor developed areas, and the Mott Island Headquarters area. Open water motorized zones include Lake Superior waters outside of designated “quiet/no wake waters”.

### On-Board Generators –

The operation or use of permanently installed (by the boat manufacturer) on-board vessel generators is allowed between 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time in developed zones and at the following docks: Beaver Island, Belle Isle, Caribou Island, Grace Island, Hay Bay, Malone Bay, Rock Harbor, and Windigo. On-board generators may not be operated or used at the following public docks: Birch Island, Chippewa Harbor, Daisy Farm, Duncan Bay, Duncan Narrows, McCargoe Cove, Merritt Lane, Moskey Basin, Siskiwit Bay, Three Mile, Todd Harbor, and Tookers Island. Vessels at anchor within Quiet/No Wake Zones may operate on-board generators between 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, except when anchored within 1/4-mile of a designated park campground.

### Quiet/No Wake Zones –

These zones promote a quality visitor experience by providing relatively tranquil, natural marine surroundings. Within the zone, vessels must not exceed 5 mph or create a wake in excess of surrounding seas. Quiet/No Wake Zones include specified areas near Todd Harbor, Johns Island, Barnum/Washington Islands, Hay Bay, Wright Island, Malone Bay, Chippewa Harbor, Conglomerate Bay, Moskey Basin, Lorelei Lane, Tobin Harbor, Merritt Lane, Passage Island, Duncan Bay, Five Finger Bay, Lane Cove, Robinson Bay, Pickerel Cove, Belle Harbor, Crystal Cove, and McCargoe Cove. Consult map on page 6 and 7. Additional specific information available at visitor centers and aboard the *Ranger III*.

### Pollution Prevention –

Head pump-out service is available at Windigo and Rock Harbor when the concession operation is open.

Vessels carrying spare fuel in portable containers must use legally approved containers. Fuel may not be stored on docks.

### Customs –

All vessels arriving from Canada (U.S. or Canadian) must clear U.S. customs at Windigo or Rock Harbor Visitor Center. **A valid passport, U.S. Passport card, enhanced drivers license, or trusted traveler program card is required. Visitors from Canada can be cleared for Isle Royale only.** For additional information go to [www.cbp.gov](http://www.cbp.gov).

### Divers –

Please refer to your dive permit regulations concerning compressor use.

### Fuel –

Gasoline is sold from June 5 through September 9 at Windigo; gasoline and diesel fuel are sold from May 25 through September 7 at Rock Harbor. Diesel fuel is not available at Windigo. Early and late season service or fuel may be obtained at Windigo and Mott Island if personnel are available.

# Silence is Golden

Swiss philosopher Max Picard warned, “Nothing has changed the nature of man so much as the loss of silence,” once as natural as the sky and air.

As you leave your vehicle at one of the three portals on the mainland to travel to the Island, do you start your journey anticipating the experience that was described when the park was authorized in 1931? Do you expect wilderness qualities, serenity, and isolation as you arrive on this remote archipelago? If so, you may notice that there are developed areas located intentionally outside of designated Wilderness. Here the park has modern amenities needed to fulfill the park’s mission and to allow for concession-provided services and support a full range of activities for park visitors.

After the dust settles from the hike and the boats have been docked, evening reaches that time when people sit back to reflect on their journey and enjoy the peace and tranquility. Sound travels better at night and in the distance you hear a very distinct hum, a far off drone. “What’s



that noise,” you wonder, “a giant mosquito?” Well it is more likely the sound of the diesel generators supplying the electricity that spins the pumps and motors of the water systems, electrical grid, lights and all the necessary devices that support these developed areas of the park.

That noise is going to change! Isle Royale National Park has entered into an agreement with the Department of Energy’s, Federal Energy Management Program and enlisted the help of National Park Concessions Inc. to make a difference and become a showcase park with the development of hybrid alternative energy systems at the three developed areas: Rock Harbor, Windigo and Mott Island. The park will start with Phase I, which includes implementation of energy conservation measures at Rock Harbor and Windigo to reduce the amount of electricity consumed at each site. Phase II will include the installation of photovoltaic panels and right-sized generators that will operate to charge battery systems when the necessary

solar power is not available. Phase III will address the Mott Island area.

Due to a reduction in the NPS-wide program that supports new construction, acquiring national support for this project is difficult. The park is trying to bring each phase on-line with the help of donors and park resources. Currently Phase I is supported equally by a generous donation from the National Parks Concession Inc. board and matching funds from Isle Royale’s operating budget. The Superintendent continues to reach out to garner support for this project.

This project not only conserves fuel, but also greatly reduces the amount of diesel fuel transported to the island, decreasing risk of potential fuel spills and reduces the emissions into the park’s Class I air shed. At the same time; it will reduce the noise pollution that constantly impacts the natural soundscape. As your journey may be a circle, so is the way of the island. In the very near future as you relax on an island dock just after sunset, you may stop and wonder, “Where’s the noise?” and then begin to hear what we have all been missing.

Keith Butler  
Chief of Maintenance

***It is our family tradition to spend part of our summer at Isle Royale.***

We began travelling to the park when we were still in the cradle and are now in our late teens. “Why Isle Royale?” you may ask yourself, if you haven’t been there yet. Isle Royale is a retreat to nature where the city lights don’t extinguish the stars, where wilderness grows untouched, where you can see how nature acts when it thinks nobody’s looking. And who can forget the people. If it is solitude you seek there is plenty, but the few people you do meet are from all over, each with their own unique personalities and stories, and reasons for loving this special place. Experience the beauty of Isle Royale that has enchanted us for a lifetime.

**Jamie and Jen**  
**Isle Royale devotees**  
**for 16 years**

# Planning for Wilderness

A full eight years before the Wilderness Act was signed into legislation, Howard Zahniser, a Washington D.C. based advocate for the newly fledged Wilderness Society, had a coat specifically tailored with four supersized inside pockets. In these pockets he kept books, wilderness bill propaganda, and Wilderness Society membership information and applications. Zahniser testified, “I believe that at least in the present phase of our civilization we have a profound need for areas of wilderness – a need that is not only recreational and spiritual but also educational and scientific, and withal essential to a true understanding of ourselves, our culture, our own natures, and our place in all nature.” These words, Zahniser’s passion in black and white print, became the backbone of the 1964 Wilderness Act, and ultimately wilderness preservation as we know it today. Ironically, Howard Zahniser died just two days after testifying at the final congressional hearing for the bill; a few months before that bill became law.



From Zahniser’s seminal thoughts to the present, wilderness remains a need for each of us, and federal agencies like the National Park Service (NPS) are working to preserve and promote wilderness values. In 2011, Isle Royale National Park released its first ever Wilderness and Backcountry Management Plan (WBMP) to provide accountability, consistency, and continuity for managing Isle Royale’s wilderness and backcountry.

The WBMP addresses a wide array of management issues, and identifies specific goals, objectives, and decision-making guidelines for administrative actions and visitor use. Adopting this plan causes some changes in how the NPS manages wilderness and backcountry on Isle Royale. Some changes will be readily apparent to the public, while others will be primarily operational. The NPS will institutionalize processes to guide and document decisions on appropriate tools for maintenance activities in the park’s wilderness, appropriate research projects and field methods within wilderness, and appropriate administrative actions within the wilderness. The NPS will aim

to make better use of research and monitoring to guide management through the creation and implementation of a coordinated wilderness monitoring plan, and will strive to increase staff training and accountability for wilderness management.

The most obvious changes from the public perspective are those that address crowding and visitor distribution, visitor information services, and resource conditions, such as: 1) managing overnight camping and boating in Isle Royale’s wilderness and backcountry, including permitting and information services, 2) managing day use in the park’s wilderness and backcountry, 3) managing campfires, 4) maintaining or removing the fire towers in the park’s wilderness, and 5) maintaining or removing picnic tables from wilderness campgrounds. The approved management actions outlined in the plan were crafted to respond to public interest and the concerns of subject matter experts, and to incorporate the best science available for guiding preservation of Isle Royale’s resources and values. General goals included improving the quality of wilderness and backcountry experiences for visitors while still providing high public access to the park for appropriate types of recreation.

Please take an opportunity to review the plan by visiting the park’s website at <http://www.nps.gov/isro/parkmgmt/planning.htm>

Mark Romanski  
Biologist

## Update: Cultural Resources Management Plan

Last winter, the National Park Service worked on preliminary alternatives to be considered in the Cultural Resources Management Plan (CRMP). Public comments are a critical part of this planning process and we look forward to working with you and appreciate your continued interest in the future of Isle Royale National Park.

Newsletters, participation opportunities and other pertinent information related to the CRMP can be found online at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/ISROcrmp>

***Isle Royale is where I first became lost.***

I made a mistake and spent a cold rainy May night without shelter in the wilderness. I survived the night. But twenty years later, I still haven’t found my way out. Every important thing that I’ve learned, Isle Royale has taught me.

**John Vucetich, co-leader of the Isle Royale wolf-moose project**

**Isle Royale devotee**  
**for 20 years**

***I have been running one of the Isle Royale SCUBA diving charters for thirty-seven years in an old but classic wooden boat.***

My boat work starts in April for a June launch and the thought of being at Isle Royale seems far away. By launch time I’m thoroughly convinced of my insanity, but hope that the island magic will still be there. The first trip of the year is always hectic, so the beauty that surrounds me is just background music until we finally anchor in a quiet Isle Royale bay. It is only then, as I make the final checks and gaze out over the glassy water to the stars glistening above and perhaps hear a loon in the distance, that I finally understand, once again, why I do this and humbly say thanks for letting me make it back one more year.

**Ken Merryman**  
**Isle Royale Dive Charter Captain**

**Isle Royale devotee**  
**for 40 years**



**REMINDER:**  
Barbless hooks and artificial lures only in all inland lakes, streams and creeks.

# Fishing at Isle Royale

A Michigan fishing license is required for fishing in Lake Superior, including narrow bays and harbors, and when transporting fish from the island to the mainland. If you are under 17 years of age, you may fish without a license. Licenses are not required to fish on the inland waters of Isle Royale; possession limits are generally the same as those set by the State of Michigan. Also see additional information on this page regarding special brook trout regulations. Anglers should refer to the Michigan fishing regulations for possession limits and detailed license requirements for Lake Superior (also see the chart on page 7 for a brief guide to regulations). Only 24-hour licenses are available on the island and only when concession services are open. You may purchase a Michigan fishing license online at [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr).

## Special Brook Trout Regulations

Surveys indicate populations are dangerously low and may be at risk of disappearing unless they have more protection. The National Park Service and Michigan DNR have implemented protective regulations at Isle Royale in order to help with the recovery of this once-common fish.

Brook trout can be identified by their nearly square tail and wormlike pattern on the back and dorsal fin. If you’re uncertain about the species you catch, return it to the water.

**Lake Superior Waters**  
(extend 4.5 miles out from the island)  
Catch and release only for all brook trout, including all bays and harbors.

**Inland Waters**  
Catch and release only in all lakes, streams, and creeks. Only artificial lures and barbless hooks can be used in all lakes, streams, and creeks.

# Invader Alert – Aquatic Invasive Species

Isle Royale waters, like all Lake Superior waters, face a growing threat from the invasion of non-native species. Once species like zebra mussels, spiny water fleas and sea lamprey enter an area, they cause large scale changes in the ecosystem.

Two invasive species, the sea lamprey and the spiny water flea have already established a presence in Isle Royale waters. The spiny water flea is presently found only in Lake Superior. The park is concerned it may enter the inland lakes. Once established, its spines harm predator fish and the fleas disrupt the zooplankton population, the basic source for many fish species.

In 2009, zebra mussels were documented for the first time. Their potential to cause catastrophic change cannot be overstated. If zebra mussels were to enter the inland lakes it is estimated that they would cover nearly every habitable surface on an inland lake floor in two to four years.

The exotic virus Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) has reached Lake Superior. This disease affects more than 40 species of fish including lake trout and coaster brook trout. The incredible genetic diversity of Isle Royale’s lake trout would be at risk if VHS was introduced to Isle Royale waters.

## Stopping the Spread - Visitor Responsibilities

Vessel owners are legally responsible for Aquatic Invasive Species decontamination prior to entering park waters (extending 4.5 miles from Isle Royale and the outer islands). This applies to all vessels (power and sailboats, canoes, kayaks, etc.), regardless of size or configuration. Please take the following steps to prevent the transport of zebra mussels and other aquatic invasive species to Isle Royale waters:

**Inspect** for zebra mussels and other aquatic invasives attached to your trim tabs, swim platform, motor mounts, hull and equipment. Feel the hull. A coarse sandpaper texture may indicate larval mussels attached to your boat.

**Remove** all zebra mussels and other invasive species along with any aquatic plants from your boat, trailer and equipment. Larval mussels are best removed with a scrub brush or similar method. Treat invasives like litter. Dispose of them in a trash can.

**Drain** all water from your motor, livewell, bilge, transom, etc. away from any body of water.

**Wash** your boat, including bilge and equipment with either: a) Hot (greater than 104 degrees F) water, b) High pressure water, or c) disinfectant OR

**Clean and Dry** your boat and equipment in the sun for five days. Rainy days don’t count.

**Check** to see if your boat is coming from a port known to have zebra mussels. Duluth, Superior, Thunder Bay, Marquette, Ontonagon and Ashland all have documented infestations. If so, take extra measures to assure decontamination.

# Fishery Conservation

With its multitude of islands and bays on Lake Superior, as well as numerous lakes and streams on the interior of the island, Isle Royale provides many opportunities for outstanding recreational fishing for wild, native fish. How can you help to conserve and minimize damage to the Isle Royale fishery?

- The possession or use of bait for fishing within the Lake Superior waters of the park is limited to those fish and/or fish parts that are caught within Isle Royale National Park waters. Transporting fish or fish parts for use as bait to the park is prohibited.
- Catch only what you plan to keep or eat. Catch and release, while encouraged, can be damaging and very stressful on fish.
- Know the minimum and maximum legal size of fish so that if they are too small or too large they can be quickly released.
- If moving from Lake Superior to an inland lake, change to a different spool of line. This will help prevent spread of the spiny water-flea, an exotic aquatic invertebrate that competes with juvenile fish for food. It has been found in Lake Superior waters of the park but is not yet documented in inland waters. Spiny water fleas can adhere to fishing line and be easily spread to other bodies of water.
- Release larger fish and keep medium size fish to insure future productivity. Larger, more mature fish produce more offspring than smaller fish.
- Instead of killing trophy fish, consider a modern graphite mount produced from a picture of the fish.
- Return fish to the water as soon as possible. While unhooking them, keep fish in the water as much as possible.
- Try not to handle fish, but if you need to, do so with a wet hand. Release handled fish gently by allowing them to swim

from your hands rather than throwing them back into the water.

- Do not squeeze the fish or place fingers in the gills, since a torn gill can cause the fish to bleed to death.
- Remove the hook gently. Pliers work best. Cut the line near the hook if a fish is deeply hooked. A steel hook will decompose in time.
- Use only artificial lures (required in inland waters) as exotic species can accidentally be introduced by using live bait. In addition, live bait is more likely to be swallowed; resulting in more damage to fish.
- Use barbless hooks or bend down the barbs on the hooks. Using larger spoons when fishing for larger fish will help prevent catching undersize fish.

## Disposal of Fish Remains

At Rock Harbor and Windigo, please use the fish cleaning station. At other locations, the preferred method is to dump remains chopped up into pieces 4” or less in deep (50’ or deeper) water. This reduces the unsightly remains and odors around campgrounds and the unnaturally large gathering of gulls at these sites. At inland lakes the preferred method of disposal is to chop fish remains into pieces 4” or less and deposit into deep water via canoe. If you do not have a canoe, you could request the assistance of a canoeist. The alternate method is to chop up remains into pieces 4” or less and move at least 200 feet (75 steps) from campground and throw remains as far as possible into deep water. These steps will eliminate the potential for attracting and feeding wildlife at campgrounds. Please clean fish away from docks and campgrounds. Do not throw remains in shallow water near shore or throw remains to gulls or other animals.

## Transporting Fish to the Mainland

You are allowed only one day’s catch in your possession. While the license holder remains on the Island, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) allows those with DNR permits to ship legally-taken fish on the *Ranger III*, *Isle Royale Queen IV*, *Sea Hunter*, *Voyageur II* and the seaplane. This one-a-year permit covers up to a single day’s catch limit. Fish must be claimed when the ferry service arrives at their destination. Permits may be obtained by writing: Department of Natural Resources, 427 U.S. 41 North, Baraga, Michigan 49908-9627 or calling (906) 353-6651.

Fishermen returning on the *Ranger III* must check in their fish with the ship’s purser. Fish cannot be transported in coolers on private boats onboard the *Ranger III*.

## Fish Consumption Advisory

Contaminants discovered in the Park ecosystem remind us that although Isle Royale is remote, it is part of a global system. Ongoing research in six inland lakes (Sargent, Siskiwit, Eva, Shesheeb, Wagejo, and Anglemorm) shows fish with mercury levels exceeding the State of Michigan fish consumption advisories.

For information on fish consumption advisories check with park staff or visit the Michigan Department of Community Health website at: <http://www.michigan.gov/mdch> or the EPA Fish Advisory website at: [http://water.epa.gov/scitech/swguidance/fishshellfish/fishadvisories/advisories\\_index.cfm](http://water.epa.gov/scitech/swguidance/fishshellfish/fishadvisories/advisories_index.cfm)

Jay Glase  
Fishery Biologist

# Transportation Services

Rates and schedules are subject to change.

## FROM HOUGHTON, MICHIGAN



### RANGER III

National Park Service owned and operated.

5 hours one-way to Mott Island 6 hours one-way to Rock Harbor, 165 ft., 128 passenger vessel

#### SCHEDULE (Eastern Daylight Time)

5/29 thru 9/15

■ Houghton to Rock Harbor  
Tues. and Fri. 9:00 a.m.

■ Rock Harbor to Houghton  
Wed. and Sat. at 9:00 a.m.

#### SPECIAL FALL SCHEDULE

Six passenger seats are available for the following dates, dependent on the weather.

■ 9/18 thru 10/9 Houghton to Mott or Three Mile  
Tues. 8:15 a.m.

■ 9/20, 9/27, 10/3, and 10/11 Mott Island or  
Three Mile To Houghton Departs 8:15 a.m.

■ 10/16 Windigo to Houghton Departs 8:15 a.m.

#### Keweenaw Waterway Cruise

(2 ½ hours) 7/12, 7/26, 8/9 and 8/23 Depart  
from Houghton 1:00 p.m.

FARES	ONE-WAY
Low Season Prior to 7/10 and after 8/25	
Adults.....	\$50.00
High Season 7/10 thru 8/25	
Adults.....	\$60.00

All Season	
Children (7 thru 11 years) .....	20.00
Children (age 6 and under) .....	FREE
Boat (less than 18'01").....	85.00
Boat (18'01" to 20'00").....	137.50
Disabled boat (20'01" to 26'00").....	350.00
.....	Captian's discretion
Canoes/Kayaks (hand-loaded).....	20.00
Canoes/Kayaks over (20'00" or 90 lbs.) .....	50.00
Outboard Motor.....	15.00
100 lbs. gear per passenger .....	FREE
Additional freight after 100 lbs .....	\$9.00/100wt.

GROUP RATES	ONE-WAY
(A party of seven or more)	
Adults.....	\$50.00
Children (7 thru 11 years) .....	\$20.00

SPECIAL RATES	
Ranger III Birthday Special	
Adult round-trip of \$60.00 if round-trip is scheduled between 6/12 and 6/23, Children round-trip of \$20.00, if round-trip is scheduled between 6/12 and 6/23	
Ranger III Lodge Packages	
(1, 4, or 5 night stay, lodge only)	
6/5 thru 7/4 .....	25% Passenger Discount, 15% lodging discount
7/6 thru 9/7 .....	20% Passenger Discount 10% lodging discount

For reservations contact the Rock Harbor  
Lodge at 866-644-2003.

**Keweenaw Waterway Cruises**

Adults..... \$20.00  
Children and Youth (age 1 through 15) ..... \$5.00  
Infants (under 1 year).....FREE

RESERVATIONS
Full payment required for confirmed reservation. National Park User Fee is payable at time of ticket purchase. Major credit cards accepted. Reservations accepted on or after January 2.
CANCELLATIONS
Refunds, minus a 15% processing fee, if cancella- tion is received 3 days prior to sailing and tickets are returned. No refund within 3 days of sailing.
AMENITIES
Free parking • Largest of the ships • Crew of 9 • Two decks for passenger use • Three staterooms available • Ranger III Grill • Interpretive Programs • Backcountry Permits issued and orientation given onboard • Four lounges • Handicap Accessible Bathroom

**FOR INFORMATION OR  
RESERVATIONS CONTACT**

Isle Royale National Park  
800 East Lakeshore Drive  
Houghton, MI 49931-1869

**On-line Reservations**  
[www.nps.gov/isro](http://www.nps.gov/isro)

**Phone:** (906) 482-0984  
**Fax:** (906) 482-8753  
**E-mail:** [ISRO\\_Ranger3Reserve@nps.gov](mailto:ISRO_Ranger3Reserve@nps.gov)  
**Website:** [www.nps.gov/isro](http://www.nps.gov/isro)

## FROM COPPER HARBOR, MICHIGAN



### ISLE ROYALE QUEEN IV

3¼ hours one-way, concession operated,  
100 ft., 100 passenger vessel

#### SCHEDULE (Eastern Daylight Time)

■ Copper Harbor 8:00 a.m.  
■ Rock Harbor 2:45 p.m.

5/14 thru 6/8 .....	M & F
6/11 thru 6/30 .....	M, T, Th, F, Sat
7/1 thru 7/31 .....	M, T, Th, F, Sat, Sun
8/1 thru 9/3 .....	Every Day
9/7 thru 9/28 .....	M & F

FARES	ONE-WAY
5/14 thru 7/14 & 8/16 thru 9/28	
Adults.....	\$60.00
Children (1 thru 11).....	30.00
7/15 thru 8/15	
Adults.....	\$65.00
Children (1 thru 11 years).....	32.50
Infants (under 1 year).....	FREE
Canoes/Kayaks .....	25.00
Double Kayaks .....	40.00
Motors (under 5 hp).....	5.00
Motors (5 hp and over) .....	15.00
70 lbs. gear per person.....	FREE

RESERVATIONS
A full-fare deposit is required for each reservation. All canoes and kayaks require advance reservations. Most credit cards accepted.
CANCELLATIONS
There is no refund if canceled less than 3 days before sailing. Cancellations received with more than 3 days notice will be sent an 85% refund. If canceling a group of 10 or more, two weeks notice is required.
MISCELLANEOUS
Parking fee • Limited snacks • Freight, canoes, etc. carried for our passengers only • Due to weight restrictions, luggage limited to 70 lbs. per passenger • Phone and letter reservations only • Email and faxes are for information requests only • The \$4 per day National Park User Fee is collected on the <i>Queen IV</i> as she sails to Isle Royale and is payable in cash, check, or money order only. Motor Boaters be advised that the <i>Queen IV</i> is presently not equipped to carry motor boats. Boaters should contact the <i>Ranger III</i> for passage.

**FOR INFORMATION OR  
RESERVATIONS CONTACT**

The Isle Royale Line, Inc.  
P.O. Box 24, Copper Harbor, MI 49918

**Phone:**  
(906) 289-4437  
**Fax:**  
(906) 289-4952  
**E-mail:**  
[isleroyalequeen@gmail.com](mailto:isleroyalequeen@gmail.com)  
**Website:**  
[www.isleroyale.com](http://www.isleroyale.com)

## FROM GRAND PORTAGE, MINNESOTA



### VOYAGEUR II

Grand Portage to Windigo - 2 hours one-way,  
Windigo to Rock Harbor - 5 hours one-way,  
concession operated, 60 ft. vessel

#### SCHEDULE (Central Daylight Time)

■ Grand Portage to Rock Harbor via Windigo/Mc-  
Cargoe Cove/Belle Isle

5/5 thru 5/26.....W & Sat 7:30 a.m.  
5/28 thru 9/15.....M, W & Sat 7:30 a.m.  
9/19 thru 10/3.....W 7:30 a.m.

■ Rock Harbor to Grand Portage via Daisy Farm/  
Chippewa Harbor/Malone Bay/Windigo

5/6 thru 5/27.....Th & Sun. 8:00 a.m.  
(9:00 a.m. EDT)

5/29 thru 9/16.....Tue, Th & Sun 8:00 a.m.  
(9:00 a.m. EDT)

9/20 thru 10/4.....Th 8:00 a.m.  
(9:00 a.m. EDT)

Windigo Round-Trip – Sat. & Sun. 9/22 thru 9/30

Grand Portage to Windigo.....8:00 a.m.  
Windigo to Grand Portage .....1:00 p.m.  
(2:00 p.m. EDT)

FARES	ONE-WAY
Grand Portage to Windigo.....	\$67.00
Children (4 thru 11 years).....	46.00
Grand Portage to McCargoe Cove/Belle Isle/Rock Harbor/Daisy Farm/Chippewa	
Harbor/Malone Bay.....	80.00
Children (4 thru 11 years).....	54.00

Inter-island travel between various same day  
designated island stops.....50.00 – 62.00

Inter-island travel for child.....34.00 - 43.00

Canoe, Kayak.....35.00

Air Tanks, Additional freight  
after 40 lbs. .... \$35.00/100 lb.

**RESERVATIONS**

Full payment required for confirmed reservations.  
Major credit cards accepted. Refund is 85% of  
fare, provided cancellation is received at least 2 full  
weeks prior to departure.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

• The \$4 per day National Park Service User  
Fee is collected on *Voyageur II* as she sails  
to Isle Royale and is payable in cash only. •  
Parking fee • Hot coffee available • Freight  
shipments must be arranged in advance • Fuel  
surcharge • Fishing poles must be in protective  
cases • Hard gear must be in securely closed  
packs.

**FOR INFORMATION OR  
RESERVATIONS CONTACT**

Grand Portage-Isle Royale Transportation Line, Inc.  
P.O. Box 10529, White Bear Lake, MN 55110

**Phone:** (888) 746-2305 or  
(651) 653-5872 – Oct thru April  
(218) 475-0024 – May thru Oct

**E-mail:** [reservations@isleroyaleboats.com](mailto:reservations@isleroyaleboats.com)

**Website:** [www.isleroyaleboats.com](http://www.isleroyaleboats.com)

## FROM GRAND PORTAGE, MINNESOTA



### SEA HUNTER

1.5 hours one-way, concession operated,  
65 ft. vessel

#### SCHEDULE (Central Daylight Time)

■ Grand Portage to  
Windigo.....departure 8:30 a.m.

6/13 thru 7/14 .....W, Fri, Sat

7/18 thru 8/19 .....W, Th, Fri, Sat, Sun

8/22 thru 9/1 .....W, Fri, Sat

■ Windigo to  
Grand Portage .....daily 2:00 p.m.  
(3:00 p.m. EDT)

6/13 thru 7/14 .....W, Fri, Sat

7/18 thru 8/19 .....W, Th, Fri, Sat, Sun

8/22 thru 9/1 .....W, Fri, Sat

**FARES**

Adults.....\$67.00

Children (4 thru 11 years) .....46.00

Canoe/Kayak .....35.00

40 lbs. Gear per passenger.....FREE

Additional freight  
after 40 lbs. .... \$33.00/100 lb.

**SAME DAY ROUND-TRIP**

Adults.....\$56.00

Children (4 thru 11 years) .....31.00

**RESERVATIONS**

Full payment required for confirmed reservations.  
Major credit cards accepted. Refund is 85% of  
fare, provided cancellation is received at least 2 full  
weeks prior to departure.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

The \$4 per day National Park Service User Fee is  
collected on *Sea Hunter* as she sails to Isle Royale  
and is payable in cash only. • Parking fee • Hot  
coffee available • Limited snacks • Sightseeing en  
route • Fishing poles must be in protective cases •  
Hard gear must be in securely closed packs • Fuel  
surcharge.

**FOR INFORMATION OR  
RESERVATIONS CONTACT**

Grand Portage-Isle Royale  
Transportation Line, Inc.  
P.O. Box 10529, White Bear Lake, MN 55110

**Phone:**  
(888)746-2305 or (651) 653-5872 – Oct thru April  
(218) 475-0024 – May thru Oct

**E-mail:**  
[reservations@isleroyaleboats.com](mailto:reservations@isleroyaleboats.com)

**Website:**  
[www.isleroyaleboats.com](http://www.isleroyaleboats.com)

## FROM HOUGHTON, MICHIGAN



### SEAPLANE

Air service to Isle Royale operates from the  
Houghton County Airport from mid-May to mid-  
September. Visit website for available dates.

The seaplane accommodates up to four persons.  
Baggage is limited to 40 pounds per person. The  
plane cannot carry stove fuel. Selected fuels are  
available upon arrival at the Park.

**Schedule**

Mid-May to mid-September. Visit website for  
available dates.

**Rates**

Round trip .....\$299.00  
One Way .....199.00  
Inter-island .....100.00

#### FOR INFORMATION OR RESERVATIONS CONTACT

Royale Air Service, Inc  
P.O. Box 15184  
Duluth, MN 55815

**Phone:**  
(218) 721-0405  
(877) 359-4753

**E-mail:**  
[Royaleairservice@aol.com](mailto:Royaleairservice@aol.com)  
**Website:**  
[www.royaleairservice.com](http://www.royaleairservice.com)

## WATER TRANSPORTATION ON THE ISLAND

### VOYAGEUR II

During its clockwise circumnavigation of the  
Island, the *Voyageur II* provides drop-off and  
pick-up services at several areas. Please refer  
to their schedule and rates.

## ROCK HARBOR LODGE WATER TAXI

Provides drop-off and pick-up services  
between Rock Harbor and McCargoe Cove  
on the north shore and Rock Harbor and  
Malone Bay on the south shore. Opens 5/25;  
Closes 9/8. For rates and further information  
visit [www.RockHarborLodge.com](http://www.RockHarborLodge.com) For contact  
information refer to page 2.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- No alcohol consumption on passenger ferries.
- Pets and wheeled devices are not allowed.
- Wheelchairs are allowed. • Stove fuel can  
be carried in approved containers on ferries, but  
not on the seaplane. • Lake Superior weather  
is cool throughout the year; for comfort bring  
a warm jacket.

## Isle Royale's Recreation Fee Program

Fee Categories	Rate and Explanation
Daily User Fee	\$4.00 per person per day. Children 11 and under are exempt from the fee.
(Optional): Individual Season Pass	\$50.00 This pass is valid from April 16 through October 31 of the year indicated. The pass covers the User Fee for the person whose signature appears on the pass.
(Optional): Season Boat Rider Pass	\$150.00 This pass is valid from April 16 through October 31 of the year indicated. The pass covers the User Fee for all persons onboard, when affixed to the private boat (charters excluded). When camping, the pass is only valid for passengers included in and following the itinerary of the vessel.

Join the Isle Royale & Keweenaw Parks Association and Support Isle Royale National Park Programs

The Isle Royale & Keweenaw Parks Association, in partnership with the National Park Service, promotes the public's understanding and appreciation of Isle Royale National Park and Keweenaw National Historical Park through education and research.

By publishing and selling products about Isle Royale National Park and Keweenaw National Historical Park, we educate people about these special places and raise funds that are reinvested in the parks to support research and interpretive programs.

Every year the Isle Royale & Keweenaw Parks Association contributes approximately \$25,000 in cash and in-kind aid to Isle Royale National Park.

YOU CAN HELP....

You can support the work of the Isle Royale & Keweenaw Parks Association and our partner parks by becoming a contributing member of our organization. Your tax-deductible contribution will help us share the stories of Isle Royale National Park and Keweenaw National Historical Park with people of all ages, around the world.

Membership levels are:

Life _____	\$1200	(Payable in 4 installments)
Patron _____	250	See website
Sustaining _____	100	for member
Supporting _____	50	premiums.
Household _____	35	
Individual _____	25	

Member benefits:

- a 10% discount on all purchases from IRKPA outlets and many other National Park Visitor Centers throughout the U.S.,
- three issues of Wolf's Eye newsletter,
- copies of park newspapers, *The Greenstone* and the *Keweenaw Guide*,
- invitations to park programs, trips, and events,
- monthly e-mail park news updates.

Become a member today!

Call us at 800-678-6925, or join online at [www.irkpa.org](http://www.irkpa.org)

The Isle Royale and Keweenaw Parks Association:

Offers books and other educational products in visitor centers at Rock Harbor, Windigo, Houghton and Calumet;



Rock Harbor Visitor Center

Produces park signs and brochures;

Brochures

Conducts field trips and workshops;

Isle Royale Botany Workshop



Provides funding for Isle Royale's Artist-in-Residence Program.

Isle Royale Artists in Residence



ISLE ROYALE & KEWEENAW PARKS ASSOCIATION PRODUCTS

BOOKS, MAPS & MORE

Your purchases help support Isle Royale National Park!

**NEW! Becoming Wilderness: Nature, History, and the Making of Isle Royale National Park \$12.95**  
Explore the little-known backstory of how Isle Royale became a national park, and the people and politics behind the decision to make a remote island in Lake Superior the first wilderness national park. 99 pp. Author: Amy Tholen Baldwin

**Wolf: Legend, Enemy, Icon. \$24.95**  
Featuring magnificent photographs from Daniel Cox, this book blends natural science, history, and folklore to explore how humans have interacted with wolves, from the earliest creation myths to current attempts to restore near-extinct populations. 176 pp. Author: Rebecca Grambo

**A View from the Wolf's Eye \$12.95**  
Carolyn Peterson's memoir of her 37 summers on Isle Royale as wife of long-time wolf/moose researcher Rolf Peterson. An uplifting and inspiring chronicle of day-to-day life in a very special wilderness. 102 pages. Author: Carolyn Peterson

**Island Life: An Isle Royale Nature Guide \$19.95**  
A complete guide to the common flora and fauna of Isle Royale in one easy-to-use and easy-to-carry volume. Over 350 species of mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, trees, and flowers, each illustrated with a color photograph or drawing. 168 pages. Authors: Ted Gostomski & Janet Marr

**Isle Royale National Park: Foot Trails and Water Routes \$16.95**  
The park's authoritative trip-planning guide. Complete descriptions for trails and waterways, including mileage, difficulty and amenities at each destination. More than 60 photos and 35 detailed maps of the park's backcountry. 4th Edition. 184 pages. Author: Jim DuFresne

**The Wolves of Isle Royale: A Broken Balance \$29.95**  
This classic first-hand account of the Isle Royale predator/prey study is illustrated with more than 100 photographs. The book reveals the true nature of the little-understood wolf and some of the secrets of this one-of-a-kind research project, now entering its 54th year. 192 pages. Author: Rolf Peterson

**NEW!! Ecological Study of Wolves on Isle Royale 2011-2012 \$4.95**  
This year's report from the winter study on Isle Royale. Includes latest information on the island's wolf and moose populations. Annual Reports from 1987-2011 also available. Authors: Rolf Peterson & John Vucetich

**Superior Wilderness: Isle Royale National Park \$16.95**  
A natural history of Isle Royale for the layperson, emphasizing the ecology of the island, the relationship between its plants, animals and physical environment. Color photographs and an extremely readable text. Maps, photos, charts, illustrations. 171 pages. Author: Napier Shelton

**Isle Royale: A Photographic History \$29.95**  
The history of Isle Royale from early exploration in the 1600s to the birth of the national park as told through historical photos and maps. Chapters: Exploration, Copper Mining, Navigation, Commercial Fishing, Recreation, and Creating a National Park. 160 pages. Authors: Tom & Kendra Gale

**Jordyn Backpacks Isle Royale National Park \$11.95**  
A true-life story of a girl's backpacking trip with her grandmother on Isle Royale. A good story with lots of practical advice and many color pictures. 40 pp. Author: Nelda Liebig

**Jr. RangerLand Products**  
Jr. RangerLand products, designed with the young nature explorer in mind, focus on our national parks and are a great supplement to the Junior Ranger program. Age 4 and up.  
48-piece puzzle \$14.95, Puzzle \$14.95  
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Learn fifty facts about wolves as they run through winter and summer scenes. Simple and fun mini-book that's also a toy. Appropriate for all ages.

**Trails Illustrated Map \$11.95**  
Topographic map includes valuable wilderness tips and Leave No Trace guidelines, along with updated trails, trailheads, points of interest, campgrounds, and much more. Printed on waterproof, tear-resistant material with a plastic coating with one half of the island on each side. Measures 4" x 9" folded and 38" x 25" fully opened. Scale = 1:50,000. Updated 2006.

**NOAA Lake Charts \$20.75**  
Official navigation charts for Isle Royale, Lake Superior, Grand Portage, the Great Lakes, Keweenaw Peninsula, and Portage Canal. Soundings in feet. Folded or rolled. Add \$4.00 for mailing tube if rolled.

**Fortunate Wilderness DVD \$20.00**  
Filmmaker George Desort documents the longest continuous predator-prey study ever conducted, where researchers have studied the interdependence of wolves and moose at Isle Royale for half a century. International Wildlife Film Festival Finalist. 60 min.

**Exploring Isle Royale DVD \$21.95**  
This orientation video produced by the National Park Service shows how to best enjoy the island's many attributes, including its trails, lakes, and campsites. Winner of the 1995 Michigan Outdoor Writers Association Best Outdoor Travel Program. 28 minutes.

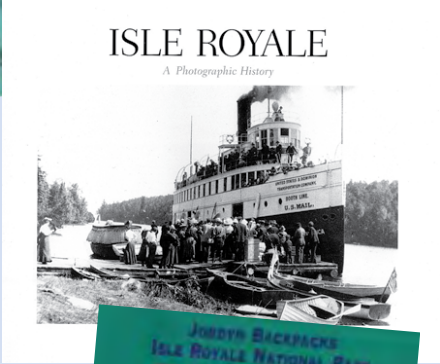
Special Value Package

**Hiking & Canoeing Package \$29.00**  
Includes the Trails Illustrated map, the book *Isle Royale National Park: Foot Trails and Water Routes*, and the park checklists of birds, mammals, and rocks.

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Visit our sales outlets at Isle Royale National Park Visitor Centers on the waterfront in Houghton, Michigan, and on the island at Rock Harbor and Windigo.



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